

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A bootable software delivery device for connecting in a
5 disconnectable manner to a computer and delivering software to the computer, the
software delivery device comprising:
 - a connection port for connecting in a disconnectable manner the software
delivery device to the computer;
 - a microcontroller coupling the connection port for controlling the software
10 delivery device; and
 - a flash memory coupling the microcontroller for storing a software;wherein the microcontroller is so programmed that the software is executable by the
computer only when the computer is booted up from the software delivery device.
- 15 2. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 1 wherein the microcontroller
prevents copying of the software from the flash memory of the software delivery
device.
3. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 1 wherein the connection port is an
20 integrated drive electronics (IDE) port.
4. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 1 wherein the connection port is a
small computer system interface (SCSI) port.
- 25 5. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 1 wherein the connection port is a
universal serial bus (USB) port.

6. (Currently Amended) A software delivery device for connecting in a disconnectable manner to a computer and delivering software to the computer for providing software copy protection, the software delivery device comprising:

a connection port for electrically connecting in a disconnectable manner the

5 software delivery device to the computer;

a microcontroller, electrically connected to the connection port, in which an authentication program is installed for booting the computer from the software delivery device;

10 a flash memory electrically connected to the microcontroller, the flash memory comprising a boot sector for booting the computer in accordance with the authentication program; and

a private program stored in the flash memory, the private program being executable by the computer only after booting from the boot sector is performed;

15 wherein the authentication program instructs the microcontroller to return a virtual boot sector rather than the boot sector to the computer.

7. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 6 wherein the microcontroller prevents copying of the private program from the flash memory of the software
20 delivery device.

8. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 6 wherein the connection port is an integrated drive electronics (IDE) port.

25 9. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 6 wherein the connection port is a small computer system interface (SCSI) port.

10. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 6 wherein the connection port is a

universal serial bus (USB) port.

11. (Original) The software delivery device of claim 6 wherein the authentication program is stored in a read only memory of the microcontroller.

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12. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting a software, the method comprising:

providing a bootable device for connecting in a disconnectable manner to a computer and delivering the software to the computer, the bootable device comprising a flash memory for storing the software, a connection port for connecting in a disconnectable manner to the computer, and a microcontroller for executing the software with the computer via the connection port; and

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programming the microcontroller in such a way that the software is executable by the computer only when the computer is booted up from the bootable device.

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